





SACWN PRESENT:

COMEDIENNE SUZY BERGER

AND FEATURING SACWNITE DANIELLE

With a New York accent and an attitude to go with it, Suzy Berger will charm you with fast paced comedy from old fashioned one liners to her version

of Dr. Ruth, with a stop to discuss dysfunctional families she has known.

Being a comic and being gay have always gone together for Berger. She got kicked out of classes in high school for talking (what else?) and attended the American Academy of Dramatic Art. She came out during her second year in college, and after graduation, moved to San Francisco where she started an improv group, Static Cling.

She has appeared on FOX TV and Comedy Central as well as in comedy

clubs from coast to coast. By day, Suzy works as a drama therapist. What is a drama therapist? According to Berger, "We show up late and make a scene." Actually, she uses drama therapeutically to encourage clients to act out feelings and express emotions.

In opening act position, Danielle, who charmed us at Camp Augusta, is now singing locally and was our February 1996 Successful SACWNite, will sing a variety of current contemporary tunes.



Date: Friday,

October 18, 1996

Place: Sierra 2, Green Room &

Theater

2791 24th Street, Sacto

Time: 6:30 Networking

7:30 Program

Tickets: \$10 Subscribers

\$15 Non-subscribers

\$15 at the Door

See ticket order form on inside back cover. An event for women over 21 only.

From the Steering Committee

First, an apology. Last month's newsletter was late. Your editor has been producing newsletters ten times a year since January 1993. Thirty-seven newsletters, by count, have been mailed on time, but last month, technical problems had us a week behind schedule. We are told that the post office then took their good old time delivering the precious first class bundle, especially in Davis. Sorry, we are working to avoid such a delay again.

Perhaps it was the newsletter delay, or the many other activities also happening in the lesbian community in September that caused the turnout for the Casino night to be small. The Sacramento Women's Chorus, who runs the bar at some SACWN events as a way to raise funds for their organziation, had a lot of leftovers. (Luckily, beer doesn't spoil.) Our thanks to them for working hard preparing for the SACWN event. Again, everyone who did attend had a great time. Many volunteers helped out, dealing blackjack and calling bingo. Thanks to everyone for working to make the evening a fun time.

We have a great program for you in October, when we bring Suzy Berger to town for an evening of comedy. You will laugh till it hurts with Suzy's outrageous talent for finding the humor in our loves and lives. And our own Danielle will seduce you with her songs. Do invite your friends to this hilarious night of comedy.

Several of you have responded to the request for hostesses for the November potlucks. There is still time for the rest of you to volunteer. Here's how it works: On Saturday, November 23 at many locations around town, SACWN members will host a potluck for those in their neighborhood and surrounding area. It's a great way to get to know your SACWN neighbors. The November issue of the newletter will list the zip codes and the volunteer hostess in that area. You look for the one closest to you and call to RVSP. The really important step is that you RSVP early so the hostess knows for sure that she has a reason to clean up the house. Several hostesses last year had heard from only one or two persons by the Thursday before the program, so they decided to cancel, only to have the phone ring off the hook on Friday, the day before the scheduled dinner. This one will take a little planning, so please consider your schedule early. It will be well worth it.

Special thanks to the new SIG faciliators that have started or re-started a SIG. Anne is heading up the CR SIG and Joy is bringing life back to the Book SIG. If you want to explore your current outlook on life or read a good book, be sure to check out the next page for more information.

Type	M	ember	Non-Mem
Business Car	d	\$25	\$37
3 1/4 x 1 3/4			
Two-column a	ıd	\$40	\$60
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Half page		\$90	\$135
7 1/8 x 4 1/2			
or 3 1/2 x 9 1/2			
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SACWN STEERING COMMITTEE

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SACWN, Inc. newsletter is published monthly, ten times a year. No portion of this newsletter may be reproduced without written permission from **SACWN, Inc.** Letters to the Editor, articles and community announcements are welcome. Materials submitted may be edited and shortened based on available space. Deadline for submission of material is the third Friday of the month before publication. For more information, contact Sandy Virago at 451-8034.

Special Interest Groups - October



Special Interest Groups, fondly called SIGs, provide a way for our subscribers to meet in a more personal setting and get to know each other while exploring a common interest.

SINGLE CONNECTION

The Single Connection is a great way to meet and get to know new people and participate in lots of fun activities.

Here's what is happening for October:

Sunday, October 6 - Dollar game Bowling. Call **Janet 771-6832**.

Saturday, October 12 - Potluck and Games. Call **Ann 927-6038 or Janet 771-6832** for details.

Sunday October 13 - Bike ride on American River Bike Trail. Call **Janet 771-6832.**

Saturday, October 19th, Movie, Coffee and Conversation. Call **Ann** at 927-6038.

We are looking for a new facilitator. This is a fun position that doesn't require a lot of work yet has lots of rewards. We also need women who can host events in their homes or have ideas for fun things to do. Call Ann at 927-6038 or Eileen at 422-8180.

CR GROUP

The CR Group will have a second meeting on Thursday, October 10th at the SACWN office from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

CR is a confidential participatory group that will meet for 10 sessions. Specific topics will be discussed. In sharing thoughts and experiences, we get to know ourselves and each other a little better. If this kind of group appeals to you, call **Ann at 927-6038.**

TOP 10

Monthly meeting on October 13, 3 p.m. at **Pam and Linda's.** Call **457-5863** for directions.

Meet for dinner at Hungry Hunter, 450 Bercut Drive on Wednesday, October 16 at 6:00 p.m.. Call **Dottie or Betty** for reservations no later than October 13 if possible at 456-2577.

Enjoy the fall colors with us on a walk in the woods near Nevada City on October 26. Call **Sue** for details at **927-8320**.

RAINBOW CAMPERS

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There will be a barbecue and planning party for next year on October 6 at **Sharon and Nancy's** house from 11 to 4 p.m. Call **683-5049** for directions to attend or to get the calendar for next year or call Casey at 366-7362.

All campers are welcome with tents, trucks, RVs, mattresses, etc.



THE BOOK GROUP

There will be an organizational meeting for women interested in a book discussion group on Friday, October 11 at 8:00 p.m. at the SACWN office.

For more information, Joy at 452-5513.

COUPLES GROUP

We'll be bowling at Country Club Lanes at 2600 Watt Avenue on Sunday, October 20th at 5 p.m. We're working on a group rate so RSVP early to **Diana and Julie at 361-9422.**

FOUR WHEELERS

Have a four wheel drive? Wanta give it some action? Call Cinder at 676-0641 or Julie at 361-9422 for info.

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MOMS AND KIDS

The Moms Group meets for a potluck on the third Saturday of the month. We also get together for many other fun family activities during the month. And for that needed break from the kids, we feature a "Mom's Night Out" activity. Call Kim, the group facilitator at 364-8653 for information. For a newsletter and monthly activity calendar, call Donna or Christina at 484-5696.

NEWCOMERS

We have a welcome brunch on the last Sunday of the month. Join us if you are new to the area, new to SACWN or just new. All members and facilitators are invited to attend. RSVP to **Debbie** at **209/473-0799** for location and time.

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WILDLIFE, BIRD WATCHING AND PHOTOGRAPHY HIKES

Call **Linda at 921-9052** to find out about the upcoming activities.

SACWN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SACWN DATES FOR 1996

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18 - COMEDY SIERRA 2 THEATER SUZY BERGER, COMIC ACTOR AND WRITER



Multi-talented Suzy Berger performs showstopping stand-up comedy and improv. She has appeared on the same bill as Robin Williams and Sandra Bernhard. Suzy is profiled in Revolutionary Laughter, an anthology of women comics. She just completed voice overs for Star Trek The Next Generation "A Final Unity", an interactive CD Rom as Capt. Picard's nemesis. Suzy is in the films Straight Agenda and

Very Funny, premiering in film festivals from Sydney to D.C. In her spare time Suzy earned a graduate degree in psychology so she could feel JUNG again.

In opening act position, SACWNite Danielle, a songstress currently appearing in clubs around town, will delight us with her husky, jazzy voice and smooth, passionate delivery of current contemporary songs.

Join us for a special evening of entertainment.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1996 WORKSHOP WITH DR. JOANNE MARROW EXPLORING OUR SEXUAL SELVES

Take a day to learn all about your sexuality and how to stay in touch with the sexual you. This all day workshop (10 to 4 p.m.) is sponsored by SACWN. Maximum participation will be 20 persons. \$45 includes lunch. See registration form on page 6.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23 - POT LUCK

We'd like to repeat the successful potluck around town program we planned last year, except this year, please call the hostess at least 3 days in advance to RSVP, **PLEASE!**

We'd like volunteers from any zip code. We'll advertise the phone numbers in the November newsletter, you RSVP, bring a dish, and meet your neighbors. Volunteer hostesses must call the SACWN office by October 18. You can call now at 451-8034.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 THE 20TH ANNUAL SNOW WHITE BALL LINCOLN PLAZA

Celebrate our community's 20-year tradition. Join us for the SACWN Snow White Champagne Ball, a semiformal evening of luxury to remember the whole year through!

The environment at the Lincoln Plaza will make you feel so special. Holiday decor, with extra SACWN touches. Tasty food, good music and a free glass of champagne or cider when you walk in the door.

An evening to feel like a queen? Whatever! It will be an evening of SACWN surprises.

IN THE COMMUNITY

October 3 - 35+ Lesbian Support Group in Auburn at the De Witt Center 6-8 p.m. For information, call 632-7080.

October 4-6 - Camping at MacKerricher State Park Gay and Lesbian Sierrans Call 455-8278.

October 11 - Women Take Back the Night March and Rally to Protest and End Violence Against Women. West steps of the Capitol, from 6 p.m. Speakers, entertainment and march.

October 12 - Hike North Fork of American River Gay and Lesbian Sierrans Call 663-3560.

October 24-27 RVing Women Convention, Lodi A weekend of entertainment, seminars, drumming, food, fun, line dancing and more. Sign up for convention or day pass. See more details in last month's SACWN newsletter. Call 602/983-4678 for info.

October 31-Nov 3 Third Annual Heart of the West in Las Vegas - Music, comedy, workshops and dances, a weekend vacation that has it all. Spectacular entertainment, activities and catered events at the luxurious Stardust Resort Hotel and Casino. See ad on page 6.

Building Lasting Relationships

Couple's group emphasizing solutions and growth in establishing committed long-term relationships. Meets 2xs per month. Facilitator: Melinda Facelli MFCC #MFC30351 - 783-0563

SUCCESSFUL SACWNITE

Written by Jeanine McElwain

Mary WillAllen, director of the Sacramento Women's Chorus since 1992, brings out the best in her singers. While continually challenging them to experiment with unfamiliar rhythms, harmonies, ethnic styles, and sometimes foreign languages, she works to improve their breathing and music reading skills. She searches tirelessly for women-affirming music and writes arrangements which suit her group's vocal range. But she's only been out for five years.

Mary was born in Martinez, California, but spent her adolescence in a St. Louis boarding school to prepare her for her future role of wife and mother. Her proximity to the Ozarks prompted her to explore caves, hunt for fossils, and raise bats in her dorm room. She recalls many crushes on women and girls during those years, including the school nurse and an English teacher (who later became a nun). But her earliest lesbian memory is of being fascinated with a neighborhood hairdresser when she was five years old! "She drove a jeep", says Mary.

Nonetheless, she married in 1968 upon graduating from San Francisco State with a B.A. in music (harp). She later obtained her M.A. and a music teaching credential from CSU, Sacramento. Over the course of her 24 year marriage, she raised two daughters, taught school and participated in the ministry of the Church of Christ, Scientist. She says she and her husband had much in common, including "matching blind spots" when it came to understanding each other, or themselves. As the girls approached adulthood, it was they who led Mary toward acceptance of her sexuality, long suppressed, by discreetly leaving gay-related literature around the

house. Coming out led her to realize that her younger daughter was gay too, which explained a lot about both of them!

Mary's therapist referred her to a gay client for her first meeting with an "out" lesbian, who handed her a "horribly Xeroxed copy" of the SACWN newsletter. There she saw an ad for a music director in the gay community, to which she responded. The chorus gave her a trial run in the spring of 1992 and, for the first time in her life, she felt immediate acceptance among a group of women. She was so thrilled with this sense of "coming home" that in short order she fell in love and initiated divorce proceedings.

The chorus was an ironic twist of fate for her, as she had been unwillingly steered toward choruses (and away from orchestras) through most of her teaching career, simply because she was a woman. Her mounting frustration with the sexist attitudes of male administrators culminated in her "disastrous year" with a Sacramento high school women's chorus, which considered itself inferior to the mixed chorus (an attitude shared by the music department and by Mary herself, at the time, she reluctantly admits). To improve morale, she spent much of her time composing and arranging music that would appeal to her students. They eventually rallied to produce a small concert, but by the end of the year Mary had had enough of choral directing.

Teaching remained her calling however, along with a desire to help young girls excel in school, particularly in subjects traditionally dominated by boys. So she chose to pursue a second teaching credential in math. In the midst of



her advanced math studies she discovered that she had a learning disability, which accounted for her lifelong struggle with reading. This also explained her difficulty with following the musical score while directing, as it involved repeatedly looking up and back down at the score, straining to find her place each time. And it explained her natural affinity for the learning disabled. She is now an instructional math assistant with the Learning Disability Department at American River College.

In 1993 Nikki Ruggiero, long time chorus member and current president, became Mary's loving partner just as her blossoming happiness was about to collide head on with a horrific nightmare: the loss of her younger daughter, at age 18, to a sudden bacterial infection during a school semester abroad. Determined to find out what happened, Mary hired a French attorney to battle apathetic French officials and medical personnel who took two years to determine the general cause of death, until her kindly attorney convinced her that reopening the investigation to search for



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SUCCESSFUL SACWNITE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

more specific information would not only be extremely costly but would do nothing to ease the pain of Abigail's death. Mary sensed that Abbie too wouldn't want her mother to squander her resources on such a useless quest, but would rather she enjoy Madeline, her sister, who is now singing in the women's chorus! Mary credits her partner Nikki — and the support of the women's chorus—with getting her through the loss of her daughter.

Mary's definition of success?—"to work toward being completely honest and loving in my life," a process—rather than a goal—that includes every step along the way. "Even a four-year old can be successful," she says, meaning that wherever you are in your journey is where you need to be. She does not regret her marriage; she greatly enjoyed raising her daughters and her many opportunities to employ her creative talents. She says that, once she started composing and arranging music and discovering the importance of women in her life, "there was no stopping me." For Mary, success involves growth, self discovery, and the freedom to be creative. The chorus would add that it includes nurturing others to stretch and grow in a celebration of the beauty and power of women's voices.

REGISTRATION FORM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1996 WORKSHOP WITH DR. JOANNE MARROW EXPLORING OUR SEXUAL SELVES

For the past two years, Joanne Marrow has led a sexuality workshop at SACWN's Women's Gathering at Camp Augusta. Following these sessions, participants have commented that there wasn't enough time or the right environment for women to talk honestly about their sexual selves and explore their feelings and emotions about sex. By request, Dr. Marrow has agreed to provide just such a workshop for SACWN members.

On Saturday, October 26 from 10 to 4 p.m., SACWN will sponsor a program, "Exploring Our Sexual Selves" with Dr. Marrow. Registration is limited to 20. Lunch will be provided. The workshop will be held at the SACWN office, 3031 F Street, Suite 201 in Sacramento.

To register, return the following form with your check for \$45 by October 21. To pay by Visa and Mastercard, call the SACWN office at 451-8034.

REGISTRATION FORM "EXPLORING OUR SEXUAL SELVES"

Name:
Name:
Address:
Phone:
Enclosed you will find a check in the amount of
\$ payable to SACWN for persons to attend the workshop. Mail to: SACWN, 3031 F Street, Suite 201
Sacramento CA 95816

Plan now to join RVing Women at

CONVENTION '96

October 24-27, 1996 Lodi, CA

Mark your calendar now and join us at the Lodi Grape Festival Grounds in Lodi, California, as we celebrate our first-ever worldwide gathering of RVing Women! And what a great time it promises to be!

Come meet women from all over North America who are gathering for four days and nights of entertainment, seminars, drumming, food, fun, line dancing, games, exhibit halls, dancing to "Second Wind" Friday and Saturday nights and . . . did I mention FUN!

Sign up for the entire convention, or purchase a day pass. If you have an RV, you can camp right on the grounds and experience this gathering to the fullest! You don't need to belong to RVW -- SACWN members and friends are welcome.

REGISTRATION FORM

Mail this form with check/money order or credit card information to RVW Convention '96, PO Box 1940, Apache Junction, AZ 85217 Phone (602) 983-4678. Fax (602) 982-6125. You can also reach us online at RVingWomen@aol.com. Exhibit space still available. If you would like exhibitor information check here □

NAME	NAME		
	PHONE ()		
CITY/STATE/ZIP			
Rally Reservations \$48 x persons			
	\$(no RV) Camping (up to 4 days) \$ 56		
18 Hole Golf Tournament (Oct. 24th at Lockeford Sprin	() I need a tent space \$ 56		
\$45 x persons = \$	() I need disabled parking (\$68 w/elect)		
Total Enclosed \$			
Charge to Visa M/Card Card #	Exp. Date		
IF YOU WILL BE CAMPING WITH US, PLEASI Type of RV and length:	(MH, Van, Trlr, etc.) Make		
RV License Plate #	tate of Registration Towing a Car?		

Confirmation will be mailed 14-21 working days after receipt of payment. Directions and parking pass will be mailed approx. 9/15/96

REFUND POLICY: Registration fee (less a \$20 per person cancellation fee) can only be refunded if written notice of cancellation is received at RVW by October 1, 1996. Phone cancellations cannot be accepted. All confirmation materials must be returned with the cancellation request.



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THURSDAY

Costumes & Comedy

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FRIDAY

Browsing w/ B-fast Afternoon Cabaret

Eve Entertainment with Holly Near

SATURDAY

Afternoon Cabaret

Heart to Heart Formal Dinner Ball

SUNDAY

Commitment Ceremonies Available

Blues/Jazz Brunch

A partial list of entertainers:

Holly Near

Lynn Lavner Kathryn Warner

with Sandy Ayala

Flower & McLaren

Maiden Voyage Dos Fallopia

Fiell & Reeves

Ann Lincoln

Sistah Blue

Pam & Maggie Lucie Blue Tremblay

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CATEGORIES RATES Regular Subscriber \$36/vear \$60/vear Two-in-One Household Limited Income Subscriber* \$24/year (Student/Senior/Disabled) Sustaining Subscriber** \$48/year Enclose check and mail to: SACWN, Inc., 3031 F Street, Suite 201, Sacramento, CA 95816 Name(2) Name(1) Address _____ City _____ State ___ Zip ____ Phone(H) (H) ____ (W)____ Phone(W) Career Interests (1) To charge on Visa or MasterCard please provide: Acct No: **Expiration Date:** Name as it Appears on Card: A 5% HANDLING FEE WILL BE ADDED. YOUR BILL WILL INDI-CATE A SALE TO OUTSOURCING MANAGEMENT GROUP. This form is NOT a permanent record. Please note: Names on checks are listed in our financial records and may be audited. You may elect to pay cash for your subscription and/or admission to our events. For your protection, do not send cash through the mail. If subscribing by cash, please make your payment at the next meeting you attend. A\$10 fee will be charged on returned checks. WAIVER-IAM AWARE THAT CERTAIN RISKS OR INJURIES COULD OCCURARISING FROMMY PARTICIPATION IN SACWN, INC. EVENTS AND/OR SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS. IN CONSIDERATION OF THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH EVENTS, SOME OF WHICH MAY INVOLVE STRENUOUS ACTIVITY (I.E. HIKING, GOLFING, SKIING, CYCLING, ETC.), I HEREBY ASSUME ALL RISKS AND WILL HOLD SACWN, INC. AND ITS MEMBERS HARMLESS FROM ALL LIABILITY WHICH MAY ARISE IN CONNECTION WITH THESE ACTIVITIES. Date Signature

*LIMITED INCOME - We consider a person living on a limited income to be anyone who is having a difficult time paying for basic necessities - food, utilities and rent - and who rarely considers entertainment as part of her budget.

Date

* SENIORS -Age 65+ on Limited Income; STUDENTS - Students 21+ on Limited Income; DISABLED - Disabled Citizens on Limited Income.

**SUSTAINING - Contributing a little extra to help supplement others (Seniors, Students, Disabled) on limited income.

SACWN

Presents.. Comedy with Suzy Berger

Registration Form

ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	_ZIP
PHONE		
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Non-subscribers: Limited Income:		
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	cramento, CA 9581	6
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Enclose a self a tickets will be set tickets will be he For inf	ddressed, stampedent in the return m	envelope a ail. Otherw 8034. e, provide



A 5% handling fee will be added to the credit card charge. Your bill will indicate a purchase from **Outsourcing Management Group.** If a SASE is provided, tickets will be mailed, otherwise they will be held at door. **Tickets are nonrefundable.**

This event is for women over 21 only.

Signature



3031 F STREET, SUITE 201 SACRAMENTO, CA 95816

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

HAVE YOU HEARD? WE HAVE A GREAT EVENT PLANNED FOR YOU ON OCTOBER 18TH!!

